

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 098385
ORIGIN NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02
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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:PWLANDE/NEA:ADUBS:CF
APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
NEA/IRN-MR. NAAS
P - MR. HABIB
S/S- MR. SEBASTIAN

-----301746Z 083061 /42

O R 301724Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T STATE 098385

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US, PINT

SUBJECT: PAKISTAN'S POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES AND CHARGES OF
U.S. INTERFERENCE

REF: ISLAMABAD 4357

1. IN VIEW OF THE SHAH'S STRONG INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENTS IN
PAKISTAN, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE USEFUL TO PASS ON TO
GOI OUR OWN CONCERNS AND REACTIONS TO EVENTS THERE.

2. YOU SHOULD UNDERLINE THAT WE HAVE BEEN DISTRESSED BY
DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE ELECTION BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT
PROLONGED VIOLENCE AND CIVIL DISTURBANCES COULD UNDERMINE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 098385

PAKISTAN'S COHESION AND VIABILITY FOR SOME TIME TO COME.
WE WERE ESPECIALLY DISMAYED AT THE RECENT TURN OF EVENTS
WHICH SAW BHUTTO ACCUSING THE U.S. PUBLICLY OF SUPPORTING
HIS OPPOSITION AND INTERVENTION IN PAKISTANI DOMESTIC
AFFAIRS. THESE CHARGES ARE BASELESS, AND WE HAVE ATTEMPTED
TO ASSURE THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT THAT WE HAVE NOT INTER-
VENED AND WILL NOT INTERVENE IN ANY WAY IN THE PAKISTANI

DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROCESS. INDEED, WE HAVE REMINDED THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT THAT WE HAVE CONTINUED TO WORK WITH IT ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES DURING THIS PERIOD OF TURMOIL. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS CONTINUED AND OUR MILITARY EQUIPMENT

SALES AND SHIPMENTS HAVE NEVER BEEN INTERRUPTED.

3. WE ARE UNCLEAR AS TO WHY BHUTTO CHOSE TO TURN ON THE U.S. AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME. WE DO NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT HIS ANTI-AMERICAN ALLEGATIONS WERE MOTIVATED BY DOMESTIC POLITICAL NEEDS AND PRESSURES. BUT IT MUST BE CLEAR TO BHUTTO THAT CONTINUATION OF HIS PRESENT TACK COULD HAVE A SERIOUS NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR RELATIONSHIP.

4. YOU SHOULD ASSURE THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT THAT OUR OBJECTIVE IN PAKISTAN REMAINS CONSISTENT WITH THAT OF IRAN, NAMELY, THE MAINTENANCE OF A STABLE, UNITED AND POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY HEALTHY PAKISTAN. WE WILL NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY WAY IN THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE WHICH IS CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE WITHIN PAKISTAN, AND WE HOPE THAT BHUTTO WILL REALIZE THAT IT IS IN HIS OWN LONG-TERM INTEREST NOT TO CONTINUE HIS PRESENT ANTI-U.S. TACK.

5. SINCE WE KNOW THAT GOI SHARES OUR CONCERNS WE WOULD WELCOME ITS EVALUATION OF EVENTS IN PAKISTAN AND ANY INSIGHTS IT CAN PROVIDE ON THE REASONS FOR BHUTTO'S CURRENT ANTI-AMERICAN POSITION.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 098385

CHRISTOPHER

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